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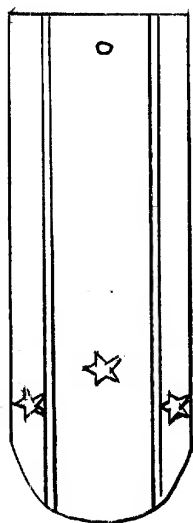
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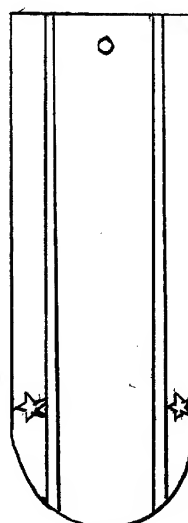
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1. Q. How are grade insignia displayed on the shoulderboards of colonels and lieutenant colonels in the Soviet Army? Are the stars placed directly on the longitudinal stripes or off the stripes? What determines their placement?
- A. They are placed off the stripes. The following sketches illustrate their placement.



COLONEL



LT, COLONEL

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2. Q. When Soviet personnel wear overcoats, are shoulderboards also worn on the uniform coat or tunic?

A. Shoulderboards would naturally be displayed on overcoats. In addition, they would generally be also worn either on the uniform coat or the tunic, but not on both. Thus, personnel wearing an overcoat would wear no more than two sets of shoulderboards at any given time.

3. Q. To what extent are blue breeches or trousers worn by Soviet officers?

A. These dark blue trousers with a tiny red stripe are used only for dress wear in peace time; even then they are not compulsory uniform pieces.

25X1 [redacted] Their issuance to officers depends upon the availability of the blue material to the unit quartermaster. In general, better uniform materials were more freely available for the Occupation Forces than for the home units of the Soviet Army.

4. Q. What determines the type shoulderboard and branch emblem worn when personnel of one branch of service are assigned or attached to another? For example, would infantrymen assigned to an armored division retain the infantry shoulderboard, wear the infantry shoulderboard with the tank emblem, or would they wear the armored shoulderboard and emblem?

A. If an enlisted man is serving with a tank unit, he wears the armored shoulderboard, regardless of his basic branch of service. An officer, on the other hand, wears the uniform and shoulderboard of the unit with which he is serving, but retains the emblem of his service. Thus, the quartermaster in a rifle division will display the quartermaster emblem on the infantry shoulderboard.

5. Q. Clarify regulations concerning sleeve cuff ornamentation of the mundir (parade dress coat) as regards general officers. Do marshals display embroidered oak leaves and generals, embroidered laurel branches? Also, do general officers wear three vertical columns on the cuffs of the mundir?

A. General officers and marshals wear three vertical columns on the cuffs of the mundir. Moreover, they wear a red strip on the cuff ends and on the coat edges (except along bottom edge). On caps, above the visor, both marshals and generals wear three laurel branches. They are distinguished by the rank insignia on the shoulderboards.

6. Q. It is believed that the basic uniform worn by Soviet enlisted personnel consists of the following items: gimnasterka (tunic); breeches; boots; garrison cap or steel helmet. Do enlisted men wear any other types (e.g., mundir, kitel)? If so, on what occasions, and how do these uniforms differ from those worn by officers?

A. The uniform items as listed are complete. Enlisted men never wear the mundir. Enlisted personnel serving a second or later hitch may wear a kitel, but this is not obligatory. Enlisted men on their first hitch never wear sapogi (high boots), but botinki (laced, ankle-length shoes) with leggings. The kitel and the mundir are alike in some respects. Both have a high collar. The mundir is more tailored; the bottom part is sewed on, has a slit in the back and side seams along the back. The enlisted men's kitel is made of cotton; the officers' kitel is woolen. Although entitled to it, most enlisted men do not wear the kitel, even at the completion of their first hitch, in order not to arouse the envy of their comrades.

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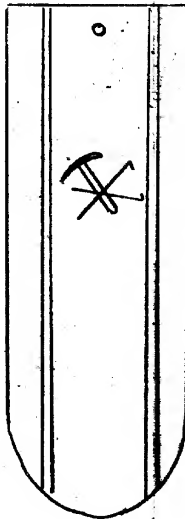
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7. Q. Do officers display piping on the collars and sleeves of the gymnasterka?
- A. Yes
8. Q. Are Soviet tankers' coveralls worn tucked into standard infantry boots?
- A. Coveralls are worn only for actual tank duty and for work on the tanks. At such times, the coveralls are not tucked into boots. In general, standard infantry boots are issued to artillery and tank units when available.
9. Q. Do officers wear the Sam Browns belt with the tankers' coverall?
- A. No. There would be no sense in putting such a decorative uniform piece over work clothes.
10. Q. Are black leather belts prescribed for officers and/or enlisted men? On what occasions are they worn?
- A. Black leather belts are not issued to officers or enlisted men in the Soviet Army. Soldiers wear simple narrow straps; officers wear wider yellow belts with buckles. Only Soviet naval personnel wear black belts.
11. Q. How is the metallic emblem for combat engineer units placed on the shoulder-boards? Is the emblem crossed to resemble the multiplication symbol as in the case of the artillery or is it placed to resemble an additional symbol with the pick parallel to the sides of the shoulderboard?
- A. I do not know whether I fully understand this question. The emblem consists of two symbols. One is a pick, the other is a wire cutter. The wire cutter itself is crossed and may be said to resemble the multiplication symbol. On the other hand, it is crossed, in turn, by the pick. The emblem is placed in the center of the shoulderboard, between the stripes (see drawing).



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